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Atty. Dkt. No. 023312-0118

Appl. No. 10/553,051

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kohichi TANAKA et al.

Title: MOUSE WITH DEFICIENCY OF GLUTAMATE
TRANSPORTER GLAST FUNCTION

Appl. No.: 10/553,051

International Filing Date: 4/13/2004

371(c) Date: 8/8/2006

Examiner: Fereydoun G. SAJJADI

Art Unit: 1633

Confirmation Number: 5841

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In the restriction requirement issued August 03, 2007, the PTO requested the election of one of the following groups of claims:

Group I, claims 2, 5-7 and 11, drawn to a GLAST knockout mouse deficient in the function of an endogenous GLAST gene.

Group II, claims 8 and 12-14, drawn to a method of using a GLAST knockout mouse as a model for normal tension glaucoma and a method of screening a compound for the prevention and/or treatment of normal tension glaucoma using said mouse.

Group III, claims 9-10, drawn to a method of producing a GLAST knockout mouse deficient in the function of an endogenous GLAST gene.

In response, Applicants elect Group I, claims 2, 5-7, and 11 for prosecution on the merits, with traverse. Applicants respectfully submit that the evidence and explanation provided by the PTO fail to establish a serious burden upon which a restriction requirement must be based.

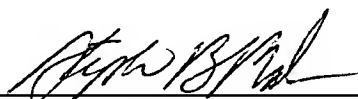
Applicants reserve a right to address any rejection based on Harada et al., PNAS 95:4663-4666, 1998, should a rejection actually be made during prosecution.

Applicants believe that no fee is associated with this response. If Applicants' understanding is incorrect, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date Aug. 27, 2007

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